THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government Officials are nominated on the Export Promotion Councils and there is constant dialogue beween the Export Promotion Councils and the concerned senior officers in the Ministry, which help in the efficient working and management of the Councils. The control over expenditure is exercised through approval of the Revised Estimates and Budget Estimates by the Government. The Councils are required to follow Travelling Daily Allowance Rules approved by Government and wherever any departure is noticed the excess expenditure is either disallowed or treated without grant. The Councils are advised to hold meetings seminars in places like Vigyan Bhawan and public sector hotels except where this is not feasible due to non-availability of accommodations.

Indian Labour Conference

1608. DR. SHANTI G. PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Labour Conferences held so far and when was the last Conference held;

(b) what is the main objective of holding these conferences;

(c) what is the constitution and on what basis the representation is given to various participating groups; and

(d) when the next conference is going to be held and what will be its likely agenda?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A SANGMA): (a) 29 sessions of the Indian Labour Conference have been held so far. 28th session was held on 25-26th November, 1985.

(b) The Indian Labour Conference is at the apex of the Tripartite Consultative. Machinery and it advises Government in the evolution of principles and policies in the labour field and on other matters referred to it.

(c) The Conference consists of representatives of States/Union Territories, employing Central Ministries and Central Organisations of Employers and Workers. Parity is maintained in the allocation of seats between employers and workers groups. The representation to workers organisations on the 28th session of the Indian Labour Conference was given on the basis of the criterion of a minimum membership of 5 lakhs spread over four States and four industries and worked out on the basis of verification of membership as on 31-12-1980. On representation to the Government that other trade union organisations should also be given representation on the Indian Labour Conference, it was decided that organisations having verified minimum membership of one lakh as on 31-12-80, other than those who have membership of more than 5 lakhs spread over four industries and four States, may also be given some representation on the 28th session of the Conference. In accordance with this decision, organisation having minimum verified membership of one lakh but less than 5 lakhs were allocated one delegate each. The Conference arrived at the consensus that the matter relating to criteria for workers representation on the Indian Labour Conference should be left to be discussed and decided by the central trade union organisations and in case of any differences among them the Government may take a decision in the matter.

(d) No decision has been taken in this regard.

Provident Fund due from the Employers

1609. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an approximate sum of Rs. 103 crores is due from the employers towards the Employees Provident Fund account;

(b) if so, what are the names of the defaulting companies along with the

details of the amounts due from each of them; and

(c) what steps are being taken for the relisation of the dues and punishing the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The total arrears of provident fund contribution from unexempted establishments as on 31-3-85 was Rs. 52.30 crores, while the provident fund contribution not transferred by the exempted establishment to their Board of Trustees was Rs. 63.92 crores.

(b) The names of the factories/establishments which were in default of Rs. 1 lakhs or more as on 31-3-1985 are as given in the attached Annexures. [*See* Appendix CXXXVII, Annexure No. 21].

(c) The EPF authorities are taking all possible legal and penal action in accordance with the provisions of the Employees' Provident Fund Act, for realisation of the outstanding dues. In cases where the employers fail to deposit the employees' share of contribution after showing the amount as deducted from the workers wages, complaints are being filed with police authorities under section 406/409 of IPC for criminal breach of trust and misappropriation of trust money.

Excise duty relief to man-made fibre industry

1610. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rs. 131 crores excise duty relief provided by Government to man-made fibre industry had not been passed on to the consumers;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to ensure that the excise relief granted to the textile industry as a follow up measure to the new textile policy is actually passed on to the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) In regard to the reliefs given to the textile industry in August, 1985 it is reported that in the case of NTC Mills manufacuring low-priced fabrics under the 'Sulabh' cloth scheme, the benefits have been passed on to the consumers. In certain other areas, the benefits were reportedly not passed on in entirety. Government has taken note of this and in the 1986 Budget, the relief given earlier to the yarn producers has been reduced by about 50 per cent. Further steps will depend on the response of the industry to the concessions given.

Import of Cereals

1611. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD.
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any import of cereals during the Sixth Plan period;

(b) if so, the quantity and value of such imports, year-wise;

(c) the countries from which the imports were made;

(d) whether cereals were exported during this period; and

(e) if so the quantity, the value and countries to which exports, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Statement—I showing quantity and value of import of cereals during 1980-81 to 1982-83 and names of major countries from where imported is enclosed, Data are available upto 1982-83 only.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A statement-II showing quantity and value of exports of cereals during 1980-81 to 1982-83 and names of major countries which exported is enclosed. Data are available upto 1982-83 only.